United Nations E/C.2/2006/2/Add.12

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
27 March 2006

Original: English/French

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
2006 resumed session
10-19 May 2006

Quadrennial reports for the period 2001-2004 submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31*

Note by the Secretary-General

Contents

		Page
1.	International Road Transport Union	2
2.	Mani Tese '76	5
3.	Rural Reconstruction Nepal	8
4.	World Movement of Mothers	10
5.	World Vision International	17

* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

06-28626 (E) 240406 280406

1. International Road Transport Union

Special consultative status granted in 1949

1. Objective, geographical extension, priorities

The objective of the IRU is "to contribute, in the interest of society as whole, to the development and prosperity, in all countries, of domestic and international road transport and to safeguard the role of road transport for hire and reward and on own account".

Since 2001, the IRU has admitted new Members from Canada, China, Malta, Pakistan and Turkey. At 31 December 2004, the IRU had 176 members in 67 countries.

The IRU's priorities are the facilitation of road transport, trade and tourism and sustainable development.

2. IRU – United Nations Co-operation: Facilitation of road transport, trade and tourism

The IRU has been an active participant at annual meetings of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Inland Transport Committee (UNECE) and its Principal Working Party on Road Transport. The main questions addressed by the IRU through written and oral contributions include:

a. Facilitation of international road transport

- Submission of proposals on the facilitation of border crossings in central and eastern Europe;
- Submission of various proposals on the mitigation of the visa problem for professional drivers employed in international transport;
- Participation in the ongoing discussion of an IRU proposal to adopt a new Annex on the facilitation of border crossings by road to the International Convention on the Harmonisation of Frontier Controls of Goods (1982);
- Active contribution to debates on enhancing supply chain security; presentation of the IRU Guidelines on Road Transport Security;
- Submission of the road transport industry's point of view on fiscal measures affecting road transport.

b. United Nations Agreements and Conventions

- Active promotion of the adoption and practical implementation of United Nations multilateral legal instruments on road transport in central and eastern Europe, in particular in newly independent states, as well as in Asia, including China;
- Support for finding the appropriate legal form for the use of an electronic waybill under the Convention on the contract for the international carriage of goods by road;

- Contribution to the elaboration of a draft Revision of the European Agreement concerning the work of crews of vehicles engaged in international road transport in order to integrate the use of the digital tachograph;
- Participation in the discussion on a draft Revision of the Consolidated Resolution on the Facilitation of Road Transport on the basis of a previous IRU proposal; The revision was adopted on 20 April 2004.

c. Assistance to countries in transition and developing countries

- Realisation of the IRU Strategy for the enlargement of the European Union; regular progress reports on the state of the matter in the road transport sector in candidate countries;
- Reinforcement of the IRU Permanent Delegation and Liaison Committee to the CIS in Moscow;
- Organisation of seminars and conferences on aspects of transition and E-W co-operation in transport (East-West Road Transport Conferences in Budapest, Hungary (15-16 May 2003) and Tallinn, Estonia (19-20 May 2005), Euro-Asian Road Transport Conferences in Irkutsk, Russian Federation (13-14 September 2001) and Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran (6-7 October 2003).
- Publication of the 4th edition of the IRU Handbook on Road Transport Facilitation, Legislation and Practices, including a special chapter on the UNECE acquis (23 April 2004);
- The IRU is one of the partner agencies in the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action developed under the auspices of the United Nations Office of the High Representative for Landlocked and Least Developed Countries and approved by the United Nations General Assembly. During the last four years, the IRU has developed constructive cooperation with the secretariats of the United Nations Regional Commissions in Western Asia (UNESCWA) and Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP).

d. TIR (Transports Internationaux Routiers)

- For over 50 years, the IRU has organised and ensured the efficient functioning of the TIR International Guarantee Chain established by the TIR Convention.
- The IRU has continued to play an active and major role, including in the work of TIR Executive Board, through contributions, reports and proposals aimed at improving the functioning and ensuring the sustainability of the TIR System.
- The IRU developed and participates actively in the implementation of an international risk management system for TIR Carnets, set up in accordance with the Recommendation by the Administrative Committee of the TIR Convention, dated 20.10.95, developing a computerised network between 56 customs administrations, national transport associations and the IRU. Since that date, the IRU has appealed for the introduction of this control system in the TIR Convention itself. Despite the obvious benefits of this vital risk management tool, in October 2004, almost 10 years after the system was created, there was still one Contracting party not ready to accept that this tool be included in the Convention. *(NB: This was subsequently approved in February 2005.)*
- The IRU continues to actively work towards the computerisation of TIR procedures in order to ensure that expectations are realistic and useful for all transport, trade and customs administrations.

- The IRU continued its annual transfer of funds to cover the budget of the TIR Executive Boar and the TIR Secretariat, as it has done since their creation.

3. IRU – United Nations Cooperation: Sustainable development

a. Sustainable development

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

- As a preparatory initiative to the World Summit on Sustainable Development held i Johannesburg in September 2002, UNEP invited the IRU to write a report on road transport contribution to sustainable development comprising the IRU's strategy and achievements and th remaining challenges for the sector. The report was discussed in a multi-stakeholder dialogue wit representatives of civil society, the scientific community and political decision makers. The fina report, as well as the IRU strategy on innovation, incentives and infrastructure, was endorsed b all the stakeholders and, through its publication as an official UNEP sector report at the world summit, by UNEP itself.

b. Road safety

- Complementing the United Nations General Assembly plenary session on road safety, a separat stakeholders' meeting was held in New York in April 2004 at which the IRU confirmed the roa transport sector's commitment to help improve road safety, highlighted public and private roa safety initiatives and proposed a world road safety charter. This idea was subsequently taken up b the WHO-World Bank report on "Road Traffic Injury and Prevention" and a WHO-United Nations Road Safety Collaboration meeting was held in 2004.
- The IRU followed the work of the UNECE Working Party on Road Traffic Safety, attending it meetings, informing the members of its own Road Safety Commission about its work and defining with the latter, standpoints to be defended at the former.
- The report of the UNECE's Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Safety in Tunnels was adopte in January 2002 and its recommendations submitted to the various competent subsidiary bodies o the Inland Transport Committee. The IRU took an active part in its meetings and persuaded the UNECE to recommend that twin-tube tunnels be used on all routes with major traffic flows. This undoubtedly encouraged the European Commission to include a similar recommendation in its draft Directive on Tunnel Safety, published at the end of 2002.

c. International carriage of dangerous goods by road (ADR)

- The IRU contributed in a considerable way to the UNECE's Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and joint meetings on the European Agreements concerning the international transport of dangerous goods by rail, road and inland waterways.
- The IRU took the initiative of developing, together with other industry players, common industry guidelines on security in the transport of dangerous goods, which make up chapter 1.10 of the

agreement governing transport of dangerous goods by road, and which are at the disposal of government representatives.

- The IRU organised and presided over a special working group comprised of representatives from Contracting Parties and industry and whose aim was the harmonisation of regulations for training and for the examination of safety advisers.
- The IRU also strongly supported the initiative of the Secretariat to facilitate transit through tunnels according to classes.

d. Combined Transport

- The IRU continues to present information to enrich the discussions on intermodal transport. It also collaborated in the European Conference of Ministers of Transport questionnaire on the impact of the consolidated resolution on combined transport.

e. Construction of Vehicles

- The IRU actively followed the debates in Geological Remote Sensing Group on investigating the effects of belted passengers on energy calculations and the resulting survival rate during a vehicle rollover.
- The IRU also participated in meetings of the Working Party on Light and Light-Signalling dealing with the amendment to impose retro-reflective markings on certain types of vehicles to improve visibility at night and hence road safety.

2. Mani Tese '76

Special consultative status granted in 1997

The NGO – Overview and fields of activity

Mani Tese is an Italian development NGO operating at national and international level to further justice, solidarity, promotion of human rights and respect among people. Since its foundation in 1964, Mani Tese has pursued this aim by raising public awareness on the causes of poverty in the South, lobbying policy makers and institutions and implementing development projects which, beside responding to the needs of the poor, may initiate a process of self determination and self reliance.

Up to the end of 2004 Mani Tese had implemented - together with local partners – more than 2080 development projects in Africa, Asia and Latin America, in the areas of education, agriculture, infrastructures, support to cooperatives, human rights (particularly child rights, women rights, ethnic minorities) governance, micro-credit, health, humanitarian aid, and integrated programs.

An important role in the organization is played by 1000 volunteers and 50 Mani Tese's local groups spread all over the country. They raise funds by organizing different activities locally in several Italian cities.

The National Secretariat organizes a number of initiatives at the national, regional and lo levels, often in collaboration with other NGOs, research centers, or universities.

In particular, Mani Tese organizes meetings, conferences and workshops on speci development issues such as debt, trade, aid, peace. Campaigns and lobbying initiatives are undertak in order to raise awareness on development issues and to influence national and international politi authorities on crucial problems.

To be more effective, Mani Tese is a permanent member of national networks (ASSEMBLE ONG ITALIANE, FORUM TERZO SETTORE) and international non-governmental bodies such EUROSTEP, CONGO, SOCIAL WATCH, GLOBAL MARCH AGAINST CHILD LABOUR, as w as of ad hoc campaigns.

Cres-ManiTese, a group of teachers, provides consultancy on development education in t schools, organizes training courses and publishes literature for teachers. It is recognized by the Itali Ministry of Education.

At Milan headquarters a documentation center services students teachers, journalists, NGOs. Mani Tese publishes and distributes 46.000 copies of its monthly magazine , books, posters, dossie audiovisuals and Cd ROMs.

Financial resources are mainly provided by Mani Tese's local groups, by public at large, by t 1.000 members of Mani Tese, its supporters, and by the European Commission, the Italian Ministry Foreign Affairs, Italian Local Authorities.

Mani Tese is a legal entity, registered non profit development organization, declared a publ utility by decree of the President of the Italian Republic. It is accredited to the Italian Ministry Foreign Affairs, the European Union and the United Nations as Consultant NGO.

UN Related activities in 2001

- in April (2^{nd} – 3^{rd}) Mani Tese has organised the "European Conference on Child Labour" with th cooperation and participation of ILO and the International Programme on the Elimination of Chil Labour (IPEC);
- Mani Tese has participated in the preparatory process leading to UN Conference on Financing fo Development. At the spring Prep Com (2^{nd} – 8^{th} May) the Social Watch report was launched monitoring the commitments undertaken in Copenhagen on Social Development;
- in June (11^{th} – 15^{th}) Mani Tese, as European Coordinator of the Global March against Chil Labour, has participated in the prep-com for the UNGASS on the Rights of the Child;
- in October (11^{th} – 13^{th}) Mani Tese has been actively participating in the IVth Assembly of th Tavola della Pace/ONU dei Popoli;
- Mani Tese has been admitted at the NGO Parallel Group on the Convention on the Rights of th Child.

UN Related activities for 2002

- In March (18th – 22nd) Mani Tese has participated in the UN World Conference on Financing for Development held in Monterey, Mexico;
- In May (8th – 10th) Mani Tese has been actively participating in the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the Rights of the Child and brought its contribution, as European Co-ordinator of the Global March against Child Labour, to the final document "A World Fit for Children";
- In June (10th – 13th) Mani Tese has participated in the FAO Conference in Rome and in the national preparatory civil society actions..

UN RELATED ACTIVITIES IN 2003

- In May (16th, 17th, 18th) Mani Tese, as European Co-ordinator of the Global March against Child Labour, has implemented the Campaign "Exploitation to Education" on the territory of the EU, with a focus on girls' education and asking for the implementation of UN commitments on education for all; from May Mani Tese has been preparing the 2004 Children's World Congress on Child Labour in close co-operation with ILO IPEC;
- In the period June 30th – July 25th , Mani Tese has been participating in the ECOSOC Substantive Session in Geneva, particularly focusing on the initiatives concerning the regional perspectives of trade negotiations (in view of the participation of the Association in the Italian Official Delegation at Cancun WTO Round) as well as on human rights;
- On September 15th Mani Tese has presented the part on child labour and education within the Parallel Report to the Italian Official Report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, before the UN Committee for the Rights of the Child at its 34th Session;
- As active member of the Social Watch Coalition, Mani Tese has been disseminating the contents of Social Watch related to UNDP activities.
- As member of the Board, Mani Tese has actively participated in the organization and in the initiatives of the Tavola della Pace/ONU dei Popoli held during the month of October.

UN Related activities in 2004

- As from April the International Relations In-Charge of Mani Tese has been following the planning and launch of the Global Call to Action Against Poverty, very closely connected with UNDP activities on the achievement of MDGs in view of the World Summit of 2005;
- In May (10th – 13th) Mani Tese, as European Co-ordinator of the Global March against Child Labour - together with the Italian Trade Unions, under the auspices of the ILO, with the High Patronage of the President of the Italian Republic and the support of the Region of Tuscany – has organised the First Children's World Congress on Child Labour. The Congress, that has been strongly requiring implementation of UN Instruments on human rights and ILO Conventions 138 and 182, has been planned with close co-operation with UN agencies and has seen the participation of speakers from ILO (among them the General Director of IPEC/ILO), UNESCO, World Bank;

- In September (8th – 10th) the Mani Tese has participated in the 2004 Session of the UN DPI , organising a parallel event on the role of Europe in achieving MDGs , together with Eurostep, of which Mani Tese is Member;
- In November (12th – 13th) Mani Tese has organised the course "Education and Development" for Institute for International Policies of Milan, linking with ILO and with the participation of ILO Rome Director. The course has been widely promoting and disseminating the issues concerning the UN (especially of UNDP and UNESCO) on the implementation of MDGs;
- on 10th December Mani Tese has participated in the Conference "Child Labour and Girls Education" organised by ILO – UNICEF – World Bank Tripartite Programme and the University of Tor Vergata in Rome;
- As member of Eurostep and active part of the Italian branch of the Global Call to Action against Poverty, Mani Tese closely monitored the Action of EU towards the implementation of MDGs;
- As active member of the Italian Network on Corporate Social Accountability ", Mani Tese has been closely promoting the dissemination of UN Norms on Multinational Enterprises and Human Rights adopted by the UN Subcommission on Human Rights.

3. Rural Reconstruction Nepal

Special consultative status granted in 1997

Rural Reconstruction Nepal (RRN), since its inception in 1989, has now successfully grown into one of the leading non-governmental organizations in Nepal with a family of more than 650 dedicated staff and volunteers serving 700,000 rural poor; particularly women, the landless and small farmers, ethnic minorities and the most disadvantaged and socially oppressed strata of the Nepalese society, namely, the traditional occupational "untouchable" caste groups known as Dalits and the traditional bonded laborers, now freed, known as Kamaryas. It has three regional offices in the western, central and eastern regions with project offices in working districts, spreading from the Far-West to the East of Nepal. The central office is located in the capital city of Kathmandu.

RRN's integrated community development projects are based on the four-fold approach of rural reconstruction - education and awareness, health, sustainable livelihoods and self government - in order to effectively respond to the basic needs of the impoverished. RRN, therefore, implements programmes focusing on sustainable agriculture, community forestry, agro-forestry, irrigation, drinking water supply and sanitation, community health, savings and micro-credit, child and adult education, community mobilization, institutional development, disaster preparedness, conflict resolution and resource development and management. RRN's programme interventions aim to ensure the realization of all human rights, poverty eradication, people's empowerment and social transformation through the process of facilitation, social mobilization and self-government. It has explicitly adopted a rights based approach to its development programmes which implies changing systems, actions and priorities to respect and empower people with their rights. RRN's programme work at the grassroots level is supported and enhanced by policy, research and advocacy activities undertaken at the national, regional and international levels, in collaboration with other like minded organizations, at home and abroad.

A key achievement, during the reporting period, was the fact that RRN continued to work successfully 'in conflict' despite the many risks, challenges and uncertainties. Since 2000, the Maoist insurgency and counter insurgency has gained its worst intensity and mortality levels, making it even more difficult for development organizations to operate in remote rural communities. Through its development projects, RRN maintained and strengthened social and economic capital at the local level by bringing community people together to identify, prioritize and implement projects of collective urgency. Engaging the community members in the implementation and monitoring of their schemes has contributed to institutionalizing local leadership in community governance, and has been one of the main underlying causes of our continued success even at times of conflict. Also, the rights based approach followed by RRN greatly enhanced the effectiveness of its development endeavors, particularly given the existing conflict scenario and the consequent daily violations of fundamental human rights, which is gradually taking the shape of a grave humanitarian crisis.

During the reporting period, RRN contributed to the work of ECOSOC through its lobbying and policy advocacy programmes, carrying a pro-poor and pro-people voice to the various UN platforms. RRN has participated in several UN conferences including:

- Global Environment Facility (GEF) Council and NGO Consultation Meeting, Washington DC, 8-11 May 2001
- Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Brussels, 10-20 May 2001
- 26th Session of the Committee on International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Geneva, 13-31 August 2001
- Preparatory Committee Meeting for the International Conference on Financing for Development, New York, 15-19 October 2001
- Preparatory Committee Meeting on the 4th Session of the Financing for Development, New York, 14-25 January 2002
- Preparatory Committee Meeting for World Summit on Sustainable Development, New York, 28 February -10 March 2002
- World Civil Society Steering Committee Meeting, Geneva, 10 April 2002
- World Civil Society Forum, Geneva, 14-19 July 2002
- World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesbourg, 26 August – 4 September 2002
- Seminar on "Global Governance in Crisis: Challenges to the UN and Global Civil Society", Geneva, 4-6 June 2003
- ECOSOC Meeting on Least Developed Countries, Geneva, 13-18 July 2003
- GEF Council Meeting, Washington DC, 16-21 November 2003
- ECOSOC High-level Segment preparatory meeting, New York, 17 February 2004
- ECOSOC High-level Segment, New York, 28-30 June 2004

In addition to RRN's policy advocacy and lobbying work, it has contributed to the goals of ECOSOC through the implementation of the Arun Valley Sustainable Resource Use and Management Pilot Demonstration Project. RRN's accreditation with the GEF enabled it to successfully implement the project in the Arun Valley of Sankhuwa-sabha district in eastern Nepal from February 2001-January 2004. Arun Valley is one of the most important mountainous regions, embodying rich flora and fauna of global significance, in Nepal. It is, therefore, imperative that its natural resources need to

be managed with proper understanding of social and environmental sustainability. The project aim to conserve the biodiversity and the forest ecosystem of selected watershed areas of Arun Valley; develop a community based sustainable natural resource use model applying indigenous knowled systems; to develop alternative renewable energy sources through the promotion of locally adapte fast growing energy plants and micro-hydro schemes; to improve the living conditions of th inhabitants of the project sites through livelihood and income generating schemes and to find o economic and policy incentives to promote traditional knowledge of communities for conservin biodiversity. AVASRUM PDP was able to reach out to 1,517 beneficiaries at the end of the proje period.

4. World Movement of Mothers

General consultative status granted in 2004

Mission

To ensure that mothers' voices are heard and to develop their abilities.

Aims

To motivate mothers and bring them together.

To maintain and develop networks for the exchange of information and know-how among associations from all cultures.

To reduce forms of discrimination, exclusion and violence against mothers and children.

To educate and raise the awareness of the public and leaders about the essential role of mothers in peacebuilding, both within their families and in their social, economic and political surroundings.

To support and promote the interests of mothers and children within national and international bodies.

Geographical distribution

More than 60 women's and family associations and associations working for the benefit of children from around 40 countries are members of the World Movement of Mothers (WMM). Since 2001, it has established relations with the following countries: Bangladesh, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire and Lebanon.

Participation in conferences, meetings and committees

New York

- 2001

– Second session of the Preparatory Committee for the follow-up to the World Summit for Children (29 January-2 February)

– Third session of the Preparatory Committee for the follow-up to the World Summit for Children (11-15 June)

WMM actively followed these sessions, calling for more energetic support for the family, which forms the basis of society. Meetings with delegations from various countries and discussions of texts and their implications.

– Forty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (6-16 March)

Along with other NGOs, WMM representatives met with delegations from various countries in order to discuss texts and their implications.

- 2002

– Forty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (4-15 March)

Preparation of texts; participation in workshops on peace and in the meeting on the organization of the International Conference on Financing for Development (18-22 March in Monterrey, Mexico); meeting with Mr. Amr Ghaleb of the United Nations Family Unit concerning the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004.

– Special session on children (8-10 May)

WMM prepared a statement on the important role of the family, which was presented in plenary meeting.

- 2003

– Forty-first session of the Commission for Social Development (10-21 February)

– Forty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women (3-14 March)

Geneva

- 2001

– Meetings of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO) (Non-Governmental Organization Committee)

WMM attended most CONGO meetings, including subcommittee meetings dealing with issues relating to women, human rights, disarmament and peace.

– Fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Human Rights (February-April)

Together with other NGOs, WMM gathered information, made official statements at various meetings and organized round tables on human rights violations.

– World Conference against Racism

WMM took part in several PrepCom (Preparatory Committee) meetings in Geneva before the Conference, which was held in Durban from 31 August to 7 September.

• 2002

– Fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights (18 March-26 April)

WMM took part in the session and organized two round tables on the effects of economic sanctions and violations of the rights of children, mothers and the family in Iraq and in the Occupied Territories.

– Fifty-fourth session of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (29 July-16 August)

– CONGO Preparatory Committee Meeting (PrepCom) for the World Summit on the Information Society

– WMM worked regularly with two committees:

– The NGO Committee on Human Rights which, inter alia, organized a forum on the topic "Poverty and the right to food" during the session of the Sub-Commission;

– The NGO Committee on the Status of Women, including in a working group on peace.

• 2003

WMM was not represented in Geneva in 2003.

• 2004

– Fifty-sixth session of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (26 July-13 August)

Human trafficking, separating parents and children.

– Regional meeting (Europe) for the Doha International Conference for the Family (23-25 August)

– Committee on the Rights of the Child

Day of general discussion on the topic of "Implementing child rights in early childhood", 17 September.

General assembly of the Committee (10-11 November).

– NGO Committee on the Status of Women

– Preparation for the NGO Forum (workshop on trafficking) (12-13 December)

– NGO Forum for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) region (14-15 December)

– Women Defending Peace Conference (22-24 November)

– World Day to Overcome Extreme Poverty (17 October)

– World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse, organized by the Women's World Summit Foundation (WWSF) (19 November)

Vienna

- 2001

  - NGO Committee on the Family

  - NGO Committee on the Status of Women

  - NGO Committee on Ageing

- 2002

  - Participation in the meetings of the above committees. The representative of WMM was elected Secretary of the NGO Committee on Ageing.

  - Regular participation in the preparatory meetings for the International Forum of the NGO Committee on the Family.

- 2003

  - WMM participated actively in the NGO Committee on the Family, which was preparing for the International Year of the Family (2004). Considerable attention was devoted to the role of fathers and the positive effect of that role on their professional lives. WMM called for equal recognition for working mothers.

  - WMM also participated regularly in the NGO Committee on Ageing. WMM is promoting the right of mothers to a decent pension, an issue that was specifically referred to during the 2002 World Assembly on Ageing in Madrid.

Brussels

- 2001

  - Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (14-20 May)

WMM, together with other NGOs, made a statement in support of the 630 million people who are living in extreme poverty and enduring hunger.

WMM called for assistance that was better-targeted, based on available resources and economic infrastructures and that did not exclude women from the development process.

  - Preparatory meeting for the World Summit on Children

The WMM team put forward a number of recommendations, which were to be revisited by the delegations of Belgium and the European Union on the basis of the conclusions adopted by Belgium's Senate Committee.

  - WMM submitted its application for membership of the Platform of European Social NGOs to the European Commission.

- 2002

  - WMM is part of a focus group on the construction of Europe, the Permanent Forum of European Civil Society, and, through the intermediary of the "Human Rights" or "Fundamental Rights" group, submitted a proposal in support of motherhood.

– WMM approached Eurostat in order to ensure that European statistical information takes account of work done by parents in the home, in accordance with the 1995 Copenhagen Programme of Action (chap. III, para. 46).

• 2003

Participation in the activities of groups representing civil society (Permanent Forum of Civil Society and the European Movement) with a view to providing input to the Convention.

Those activities allowed for the inclusion in the text of a reference to the rights of the child, but not to the rights of the family.

WMM Europe also took part in the meetings of the Economic and Social Council.

Continued efforts in support of unremunerated work.

• 2004

Continued efforts to obtain a section devoted to unremunerated work in Europe.

– Approached the Committee on Women's Rights and the Committee on Social Affairs.

Paris, UNESCO

• 2001

Took part in working groups on women: women and the culture of peace, and the girl child.

Took part in joint programming committees: poverty, human rights and education.

UNESCO General Conference (November).

International NGO Conference (December).

• 2003

Thirty-second UNESCO General Conference (29 September-17 October).

NGO General Conference, attended on an exceptional basis by Shirin Ebadi, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate (December).

Participation in other conferences

• 2002

Second World Assembly on Ageing (8-12 April).

WMM attended the Assembly and raised many issues, such as the feminization of poverty among older persons (lower salaries for women, interruption of their careers for family reasons), that justify its work with mothers. The crucial importance of the family was highlighted frequently during the Assembly.

Second National Congress of the Association of Tunisian Mothers, Tunis (7-13 August).

• 2004

– Within the framework of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family:

– "L'avenir depend aussi des plus de 55 ans" (The future also depends on people over 55), Paris (2-3 March)

Forum organized by the Ministry of Health, attended by the Ecole des Grands-Parents Europeens (European School for Grandparents) (EGPE) and WMM France and WMM Europe, grandparents' generation. Three speakers from WMM.

– WMM attended:

– Third World Congress of Families, Mexico (29-31 March)

– Ministerial Conference: Families, Change and Social Policy in Europe, Dublin (13-14 May)

– International Conference for the Family to mark the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, Doha (29-30 November)

– European Ministerial Conference: Families and the Future, Berlin (2 December)

Activities carried out by WMM to promote peace

Within the framework of the UNESCO Decade for a Culture of Peace, WMM decided to focus its activities on that issue by making a special effort to raise awareness among women and mothers of their active role in peacebuilding, on the basis of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

• 2001

– Visit to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) (15 June)

NATO hosted WMM and its member associations for a study day, thereby allowing them to better understand the challenges connected with the geopolitical situation of recent years, in which fragmentation of conflicts is a significant factor. That situation requires more active cooperation with NGOs like WMM.

• 2002

– Second Global Forum for Law Enforcement and National Security (LE&NS), London (11-13 June)

WMM attended this meeting: mothers must teach their children to deal with the challenges and uncertainties caused by globalization.

– Designed a conference taking a practical and concrete approach to peacebuilding activities that women and mothers could carry out in all areas of their lives: personal, family, social and political.

• 2003

– WMM declaration: "Do not go to war in Iraq" (March)

– Prepared and organized the conference entitled "How can mothers be agents of peace?" at the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), Beirut (15-16 October)

This conference made it possible to initiate very fruitful dialogue among the various Lebanese communities and establish a Lebanese branch of WMM, whose objective is to implement the recommendations of the conference.

– Acceptance of WMM's application to organize, in partnership with NATO, two advanced research workshops in 2004. See below for details.

• 2004

Workshop in Smolenice, Slovak Republic (4-6 March)

"Developing strategies to deal with trauma in children and adolescents in countries bordering the NATO zone with a view to guaranteeing the social stability necessary to rehabilitate and rebuild after conflicts or attacks".

This workshop was attended by experts from more than 19 countries and many members of WMM. Case study: the implementation in Serbia of a strategy to deal with post-war trauma in young people between the ages of 12 and 15. The study was designed to serve as a model for similar situations.

Specific proposals were formulated with a view to ensuring that the adults of tomorrow would be well-balanced and take responsibility for the future of their country.

WMM Serbia is seeking funding for the implementation of those proposals.

– Workshop in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova (25-27 March)

"Security and social consequences of human trafficking"

This workshop highlighted the seriousness of the situation facing would-be immigrants choosing to break the law because of the complexity of official procedures, consequent organ theft, reprehensible sexual acts, intolerable working conditions, etc.

The seriousness of the situation must be highlighted, both in the country of origin and at the international level.

Thanks to the active involvement of the Moldovan Government, 4 of the 20 proposals put forward by WMM have already been considered:

– Need for preventive measures at the regional level — in partnership with Ukraine, border guards are currently being trained;

– Establishment of a database to measure emigration in real time;

– Raising the awareness of the Moldovan diaspora with a view to mobilizing support for trafficking victims;

– Need for more active cooperation with the European Union. To that end, an international conference was held.

The publications relating to those workshops are currently being prepared.

5. World Vision International

General consultative status granted in 2004

Area of Activity:

World Vision International (WVI) is a partnership of inter-dependent Christian non-governmental organisations sharing a common mission to end suffering, poverty and injustice so that children and poor communities can realize their God-given potential. WVI's humanitarian efforts are community-based, child-focused, and available to those in need, regardless of race, gender, ethnic background or religious belief. In 2004, WVI served 100 million people in 96 countries, directly benefiting 2.4 million children. WVI raised US$1.546 billion cash and goods for its work and employed 22,500 staff members worldwide[1]. Specific areas of work include:

a. Community-based, sustainable transformational development, focused especially on the needs of children
b. Emergency relief assisting people afflicted by conflict or natural disasters
c. Promotion of justice that seeks to change unjust structures affecting the poor among whom we work
d. Public awareness that leads to informed understanding, giving, involvement and prayer
e. Partnerships with faith-based community organisations, especially churches, which contribute to spiritual and social transformation

Constitution or By-Laws: Same since 1992

Participation in the work of ECOSOC & Its Subsidiary Bodies and Initiatives:

Policy

Between 2003-2005 WVI actively participated in the Commission on the Status of Women. In 2004 a written statement was provided on *The Role of Men & Boys in Achieving Gender Equality* and in 2005 (49th Session) the statement was on *Current Challenges and Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement and Empowerment of Women and Girls*. At the 61st session of the UN Commission on Human Rights, WVI delivered a statement under item 13, outlining proposals for the *Abduction of Children in Africa* resolution, and addressing on-going concern for the situation of children. WV participated side events, and organized panels on children in conflict with the law and on the UN Study on children and violence. WVI cooperated closely with the Special Rapporteurs on the right to health; the right to education; and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. In collaboration with UNICEF, ILO, UNFPA, WFP, the World Bank and UNESCO, WVI is on the Advisory Committee of the UN Girls Education Initiative (UNGEI) http://www.ungei.org/ . WVI has held regional consultations for the UN Study on Violence Against Children which is a joint collaboration between UNICEF, WHO & OHCHR http://www.violencestudy.org/r25 . WVI has been and continues to be an active member of the Expanded Inter-Agency Technical Team for Children Affected by HIV and AIDS involved in monitoring progress towards implementation of UNGASS

[1] World Vision International, 2004 Annual Review, Life in all its Fullness

commitments 65-67 WVI has advocated for endorsement of the *UNAIDS UNICEF Framework for the Protection, Care and Support of Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) Living in a World with HIV and AIDS*, urging global leaders to (i) endorse this framework, (ii) make specific policy commitments needed to implement it, and (iii) agree to contribute towards this goal by committing a significant amount of their HIV/AIDS funding to protection, care and support for OVC.

Operations

WVI works closely with WFP in the distribution of food in situations of man made conflicts or natural disasters as well as provides school feeding programmes in rural schools[1]. WVI continues to work on a former project of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime in Uzbekistan, on a multi-sector project on HIV/AIDS, drug abuse and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs)[2]. WVI provided over US$100 million in Tsunami assistance through food and non-food items, child friendly spaces, shelter, water and sanitation, health clinics, distributed school kits to primary schools, economic recovery and trained communities on disaster preparedness[3] in close cooperation with UN agencies. Other operational highlights include: UNDP Russian Federation completion of a rehabilitation project[4], UNHCR refugee projects in Great Lakes[5], ILO IPEC child domestic labour programme in Haiti[6], FAO and other UN agencies in Mauritania on locust infestation in the region[7]. WV International is currently managing 332,652 metric tons of food from WFP valued at approximately USD 188 million (October 2004 to July 2005).

Major Conferences and other UN Meetings (Indicate date & Title):

- United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS, New York, 25-27 June 2001

WVI lobbied for articles 65-67 in the Declaration specifically dealing with *Children Orphaned and Made Vulnerable by HIV/AIDS*. Dean Hirsch addressed the Global Partners Forum on Orphans and Vulnerable Children (December 2004) on *How to Get Funds to Communities in Need*.

- UN General Assembly Special Session on Children, New York, 8-10 May 2002

WVI had over thirty people including four children who attended the side events and one child from Colombia, who addressed the General Assembly.

[1] http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/RWB.NSF/db900SID/SODA-6C3429?OpenDocument

http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/AllDocsByUNID/a899e2940ecc36b0a525b0d8008ec536

[2] http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=47991&SelectRegion=Central_Asia&SelectCountry=UZBEKISTAN

[3] See Briefing Paper 'World vision Tsunami Response: 6 Months On'

[4] http://moero.worldvision.org/news_article.php?newsID=667&countryID=34

[5] http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=39603&SelectRegion=Great_Lakes

[6] http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipec/about/factsheet/fact20.htm

[7] http://www.worldvision.it/News/Emergency_Appeals/FAO_Says_Crop_Losses_Estimated_at_50_Per_Cent.htm

- World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg
  26 August-4 September 2002

WVI sent a delegation of four people and a press briefing was given on food crisis in Southern Africa.

WVI actively participated at the

- DPI Annual Conferences, New York 2001-2004 as well as
- the World Bank Spring Meetings 2003-2005
- Participated with UNHCR over the last 4 years at both the NGO Pre EX Com meeting each September and the Executive Committee Meetings in early October.
- WVI attended many Standing Committee meetings during the reporting period and addressed them on several occasions on behalf of ICVA.

Organisation of Parallel NGO Meetings:

WV participated at the Global Civil Society Forum during the 21st session of the Governing Council, UNEP (Feb 2001).

Cooperation with Other Bodies or Specialised Agencies of the UN

In addition to ECOSOC and its programmes, funds and specialised agencies, WVI has provided valuable information to the UN Security Council through Arria Formulas. WVI prepared a briefing paper on Liberia for the Security Council Arria formula on Liberia[9]. World Vision has participated in other Arria Formula Briefings on the Sudan, Children and Armed Conflict, Food Crises, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Haiti, amongst others. WVI has partnered with MONUC to implement Quick Impact Projects[10]. WVI actively participates in the weekly OCHA- Inter Action meetings. As part of the coalition entitled, The Watchlist on Children and Armed conflict (CAC), WVI has advocated with the UN Security Council for the protection of CAC and provided information to the OSRSG for the preparation of Secretary-General's report on CAC and to the member states on resolutions 1379 (2001), 1460 (2003) and 1539 (2004).

Initiatives Undertaken to Support the Overall Goals and Objectives of the UN

WVI provided feedback and recommendations to the Report of the Panel of Eminent Persons on UN-Civil Society Relations (Cardoso Report), the *High Level Panel Report on Threats, Challenges & Change: Investing in Development* by the Millennium Project, In *Larger Freedom*. In preparation of the High Level Plenary Meeting for the 60th Session of the General Assembly, World Vision has provided specific language for the Outcome Document.

[9] Liberia Still Waiting, Humanitarian Briefing, February 2004 http://www.justice-and-peace.org/Policy Advocacy/publications/2.5 ms/all/reports/4CD96CC5-C5C9-4C5D-8A52-4A0B9A29C7D/pre Document

[10] http://www.monuc.org/Quips Building.aspx